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Editor and Manager

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HIS ARGUMENT FALLACIOUS

Mr. B. F. Irvine, associate editor of the Portland Evening Journal, is a strong believer in the commission form of government, and presented his views on the subject in an address before the Oregon Civic League of his city recently.

While there is much in his argument that is unanswerable, but as is generally the case where a strong partisan comes out in its advocacy, the partisan forgets to protect the weak joints in his position. Without going into the merits or demerits of the commission form of government, the figures show that the commission form is costing the city of Portland more than the old councilmanic system. When the system was adopted, it was promised the plan would save the city a million dollars a year. Instead of that, whether due to the commission form or otherwise, the cost of running the city has been increased about that amount.

Mr. Irvine also makes the catch phrase that: "The real question is, what do you get for what you pay for government." That is a pertinent question, but it is far from being the real question, for it intimates that no matter what the cost is if the people get their moneys worth it is all right, and necessarily good government. The fact that the people may not be able to stand this expenditure is entirely overlooked.

It is much the same as it would be to say that a family with barely income enough to pay its living expenses, would be justified in going in debt for a \$600 piano, provided the piano was really worth that sum. There is such a thing as getting too much good government, and while conditions may have been bettered under the commission form, it looks as though Portland had gotten entirely too much of a good thing.

However Portland is far from being lonesome in this regard. There is hardly a city or town in the state or for that matter on the coast, where the tax burden has not grown to an almost unbearable load. In fact in most of them, the tax rate is about equal to the interest rate the government pays on its bonds.

This acts as a double grievance to most communities for while it is a burden to the property owner, it frightens away capital that would build factories and inaugurate pay rolls, for it is too great a handicap to carry. Commission form of government may be better than the councilmanic form, but unless expenses can be kept down and taxes within reasonable limits, some still newer—or older—system will have to be tried.

Miss Katherine Leckie, a New York social worker, says: "It is just as immoral to have too many children as it is to take too many drinks." She also says: "I don't think a woman is one bit better from being married and having children than she is for staying single. The idea that it is woman's divine mission to be a mother is absurd." Of course Katherine is speaking without experience, but even she will admit that whether the being a mother is woman's divine mission or not, it is at least up to her to be the mother of the race, if there is any. Perhaps Katherine is like the unmarried woman who complaining to an old lady about children who annoyed her, remarked, "I never could bear children!" "Perhaps if you could," the old lady answered, "you might like them better."

Portland reports a boom in real estate and says site offers are expected to attract factories. The latter statement may be true, but Portland is in much the same condition as most Oregon towns. Taxes are so high, that those who would build factories take a glance at the tax figures—and hunt some other place.

Salem is to have a ferry. Doesn't that sound like 1863? However this ferry is to be free, which is a great blessing considering the heavy travel between this city and Independence, which will probably not slacken before the first of next year.

FOLLOW UP THE FLAX CROP

Some two years ago the Capital Journal discussed the flax growing proposition at length, and it was in a large part due to this agitation that the state was induced to arrange for giving it a thorough test. The growing part has been tried out and proved eminently satisfactory. Now the getting the crop into fiber is the next step and this is well under way.

The Capital Journal believes now as it did two years ago that this crop is destined to make the valley famous. Under the management of Eugene Bosse the growing of flax and the manufacturing of its products was tried here but unfortunately the plant was destroyed by fire. It was perhaps a mistake to undertake to manufacture flax products here, with small capital and this mistake should not be made again. The work at the prison though, should be followed closely by the Commercial Club, and samples of the fiber should be sent by it, with descriptive matter as to the ability of the Willamette Valley to grow flax, to the big firms now using flax fiber in their factories. Once convinced that we can furnish the fiber in unlimited quantities and they will furnish all the capital needed, and build plants here.

The Medford Mail-Tribune continues to roast Portland and the "Portland hog." It notes that a Portland representative was in Medford last Monday and extended the olive branch, and calls attention to the fact that the last time this same branch was extended, its green leaves had not withered before Portland had jumped onto Medford and all valley points with both feet, over lumber rates which she claimed would hurt her. The Mail-Tribune is wondering what kind of a jolt will follow the recent plea for peace and co-operation.

One bridge was washed away and now that built in its place is pronounced wornout and dangerous, so dangerous that it will be closed. The bonds though issued for the building of the bridges are, we understand, strong, vigorous and healthy.

The Portland Land Show opened last night with a display of fireworks, as well as some rather preferred oratory. This latter, however, will not hurt the display which is said to be a very fine one.

The Charlton case is ended, and it is to be hoped that the news associations will permit him to drop into that profound obscurity, which he has so richly earned.



HATRED

I hate a lot of men, I wist; I'd camp upon their frames, but when I try to make a list, I can't recall their names. I should resent the evil flings from this or that old scout, but there are far more pleasant things that I can think about. Old Weatherwax has done me ill, here in my native town, and every day he tries to kill my twenty-cent renown; I've heard the evil things he's said, and yet I don't repine; and if I tried to punch his head, he'd surely land on mine. Vain is the effort to defend one's fame from such attacks; I'd rather gossip with a friend than scrap with Weatherwax. I do not care what people say, words leave no smart or stings; and every passing, sunny day is full of pleasant things. Why should I miss the sight of birds, as to the South they go, to stand around and bandy words with some long-winded foe? Why should I harbor thoughts of hate, when there are authors near, with healthy stories to relate, and pomes that soothe and cheer? Why should I hold a vengeful mind, when it is best to laugh, when I can sit around and grind chunes from my phonograph?

TO MEET BIG LEAGUERS

San Francisco, Oct. 25.—The Seals, coast champions, will go up against some big leaguers Thursday in a little post-season series. The games will be played at Recreation park. Efforts to get Duffy Lewis for the big leaguers failed, as he is filling a vaudeville engagement.

BRYAN FOR PROHIBITION

Steubenville, Ohio, Oct. 25.—Former Secretary of State Bryan today opened a week's campaign in Ohio in behalf of prohibition and against the proposed state constitutional amendment limiting the initiative and referendum. He is scheduled to make 49 speeches without pay.

PUMP DELAYS STEAMER

San Francisco, Oct. 25.—Because of a break in the engine room pump the steamer President did not sail this afternoon, and will not leave until 2 p. m. tomorrow. The break occurred on the trip from Los Angeles. A large passenger list was delayed in returning.



Charlton Will Go To Haiti and Begin Over

By Alice Robe.

(United Press staff correspondent.) Como, Italy, Oct. 26.—Sentenced to a term which, counting the amnesty means only a brief imprisonment, Porter Charlton, wife slayer, is already planning his return to America.

The verdict was no surprise either to Charlton or to his counsel. The Italian attitude toward the youthful American had been unfriendly and hence an acquittal was not expected. The evidence of early epilepsy, coupled with the showing as to the treatment of his wife, the former California woman, however, made the extreme penalty of life imprisonment unlikely.

Charlton was in better mental and physical condition at the end than at the beginning of the trial, and he manifested satisfaction with the verdict. When he is released, Charlton expects to meet Signor Servadio, former Italian consul at Denver, whose wife and family are his friends, and to accompany Servadio to Rome. Thence he will go to Naples, then alone to New York and later to Porto Rico to start life anew.

Daily he prays that he may see his father again.

How many telephones were there in the neighborhood fifteen years ago? How many are there today? Would you go back?



A Galley o' Fun!

PEACE HATH HER VICTORIES. She.—No, I can never marry you, but we can always be friends. He.—Well, that is one of the advantages of not getting married.

REAL SWIFT. "Haven't you forgotten something?" asked the maid, with a blush. "Oh, that's all right," replied the swain, as he opened the door to go out. "You can keep the rest of the candy!"

IN THE SUBURBS.



"How are your vegetables looking?" "As if they were ashamed of themselves. There isn't one in the whole batch that dares to look me in the eye!"

MAKING A BRAVE FIGHT.

Manager of Hicksbury Theatre.—Well, how's things theatrical in little old New York? Actyn Barnes (gloomily).—The beat I can tell you, my friend, is that the New Theatre is still a non-moving-picture house.

RUBBER.

The scientists tell us that rubber is elastic; but it may be so, nevertheless it looks that way; and even laymen have sometimes thought they detected this tendency in it. Rubber will generally come back if you let it—where fore it is a safer bet than pugilists, scientists, and other non-resilient bodies. We should also remember that if it weren't for rubber, ever; mother would have to board her own baby, and women's clubs would in evitably decay.

TOO MUCH.



He plucked the dandelion and blew upon it. "She loves me—she loves me not!" he muttered inanely.

Now the flower had suffered long, and if its patience hereupon broke down under the strain, what wonder? "O, ask me about Schedule K, or something relatively easy!" it exclaimed bitterly.

THE SCHOOL OF FISH.

"Queer how Jones always takes that pup along when he goes fishing!" "Oh, I don't know; maybe he's teachin' it not to bite!"

HER INTERPRETATION.

Fragments of conversation drifted in from the billiard-room where the husband and his friends were enjoying their cigars. "I called!" said the husband, happily, "and when it came to a showdown as to who was the winner why the other fellow simply didn't have a chance! And so I stretched out my hands and gathered in that which really gave me my start. I think that I did better that night than any man in our crowd has ever done. Ah, what a hand I held! I always recall that night with thrills of pleasure."

The young wife slipped away, her face dyed with a deep pink. "The old dear is telling Mr. Blinker how he cut out Freddy Barker and made me say 'Yes,'" she whispered to herself. "Isn't he just perfect!"

BIRDS.

Mamma.—Wasn't it nice of the ravens to work for poor Elijah, Willie? Willie.—Huh! Elijah's got nothing on pa. I heard him tell a fellow this morning about the bird he's got working down in the office.

WHO UTTER MOST.

"And the uttermost depths, who are there?" we ventured to ask. "Why, the people who talk too much, of course," replied Lucifer.

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ADMIRAL MANNING DEAD

San Diego, Cal., Oct. 25.—Rear Admiral Henry Newman Manning, U. S. N., retired for more than three years, a member of the city council of San Diego died today at his home on Point Loma. He had been suffering from pneumonia.

FELL AND BROKE HIS BACK

San Francisco, Oct. 25.—Charles Frederickson, an employee of the Union Iron Works, fell from an iron railing into a basement near the works today, sustaining a broken back. He is not expected to live.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists. Price 50c per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

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